

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CANBER 05619 270805Z

13

ACTION INR-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01

DODE-00 /025 W

----- 067745

R 270721Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3969

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 5619

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINR

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON JUSTICE ROBERT MARSDEN HOPE

REF: (A) STATE 185977; (B) CANBERRA 5516

1. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION REQUESTED REF (A).

2. MR. JUSTICE ROBERT MARSDEN HOPE IS A GRADUATE OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY. HE WAS APPOINTED A QUEEN'S COUNSEL IN 1960 AND HAS BEEN A JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES SINCE 1969. HE WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE IN 1970. HE WAS ALSO A PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES FROM 1967 TO 1969, AND TOOK AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THIS ORGANIZATION. HE IS MARRIED WITH ONE SON AND TWO DAUGHTERS AND RESIDES IN LINDFIELD, A SUBURB OF SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

HE SERVED IN THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY IN WORLD WAR II; SAW COMBAT ACTION IN NEW GUINEA, AND, REPORTEDLY REFUSED COMMISSION AS AN OFFICER PREFERRING TO SERVE AS AN INFANTRYMAN IN THE RANKS.

HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE AN EASY-GOING MANNER AND AN EXCELLENT SENSE OF HUMOR. THESE QUALITIES HAVE NOT INTERFERED WITH A "NO NONSENSE" PERFORMANCE AS JUSTICE. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT LAWYERS APPEARING BEFORE HIM CAN EXPECT TO BE QUESTIONED IN DETAIL BY HIM IN THOSE CASES IN WHICH HE BELIEVES THAT THEY HAVE NOT PREPARED THEIR CASES PROPERLY. FOR THIS REASON, MANY LAWYERS DO NOT LOOK FORWARD TO APPEARING BEFORE HIM.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CANBER 05619 270805Z

HE IS A GOOD SKIER AND SQUASH PLAYER. WE DO NOT HAVE AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME ANY PUBLICATIONS HE MAY HAVE WRITTEN BUT HE DID WRITE A PAMPHLET FOR THE COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES OUTLINING PEOPLE'S RIGHTS IN THE EVENT OF ARREST. THIS WAS ENTITLED "IF YOU ARE ARRESTED".

HE IS REGARDED AS A CLOSE FRIEND OF PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM. IT WAS INITIALLY EXPECTED THAT THE INVESTIGATION HE HEADS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT ON BEHALF OF THE PRIME MINISTER RATHER THAN AS A ROYAL COMMISSION. THE PREMIER OF NEW SOUTH WALES, HOWEVER, PROBABLY AT JUSTICE HOPE'S REQUEST, INSISTED THAT A ROYAL COMMISSION BE SET UP IN ORDER TO PROTECT HIM FROM LIBEL ACTIONS AND TO GIVE HIM SUFFICIENT POWERS TO SUMMON WITNESSES BEFORE HIM.

3. PHOTO WILL BE FORWARDED SEPARATELY WHEN AVAILABLE.
HARROP

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, JUDGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CANBER05619
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740236-0478
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740816/aaaaamzy.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 185977; (B) CANBERRA 5516
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON JUSTICE ROBERT MARSDEN HOPE
TAGS: PINR, AS, (HOPE, ROBERT M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005